# THE ORDINATION TO THE SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTS

in Christ's one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

of

Amanda Harbert Dosher

St. James Episcopal Church Fairhope, Alabama

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2023 Half past four o'clock in the afternoon

day

to

deep

give

of

the

salt

me

doom:

Lord,

sea,

speech,

I

and

a

his

bind un

pu - ri

round the

heaven - ly

to

ty

old

host

my - self

ter

be

of

to

e -

to -

vir - gin

- nal

day.

souls.

rocks.

guard.



Words: Att. Patrick (372-466); tr. Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: St. Patrick's Breastplate, Irish melody; adapt. Charler Villiers Stanford (1852-1924); St. 6, Deirdre, Irish melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

# THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Bishop says

Bishop Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Bishop says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

#### THE PRESENTATION

The Bishop and people sit. The Ordinand, along with lay and ordained presenters, now assemble before the Bishop.

Presenters Russell, Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, we present to you Amanda Dosher to be

ordained a priest in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop Has she been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you

believe her manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters We certify to you that she has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we

believe her to be qualified for this order.

Bishop Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church

has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your

work?

Ordinand I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain

all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the

doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs the above Declaration in the sight of all present.

The people stand.

Bishop Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of

your responsibility in presenting Amanda Dosher for ordination to the sacred priesthood. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of

which we should not proceed, come forward now, and make it known.

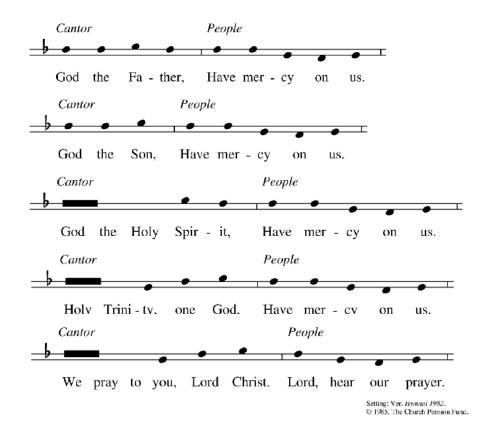
Bishop Is it your will that Amanda be ordained a priest?

People It is.

Bishop Will you uphold her in this ministry?

People We will.

# THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS



Cantor For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For Amanda, chosen priest in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor That she may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit she may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For her family, that they may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O

Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and

that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

People

Cantor For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the

ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may

receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among

nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice and promote the

dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that

the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all

who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to

amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is

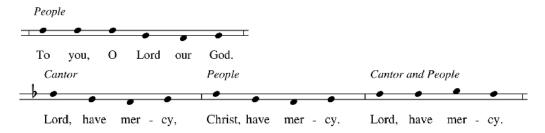
known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where

there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Cantor Rejoicing in the fellowship of James and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and

one another, and all our life to Christ our God.



Setting: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*. © 1985, The Church Pension Fund.

#### THE COLLECT FOR ORDINATION

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

# THE FIRST READING

Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting and have them take their place there with you. I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself." So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied.

The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God** 

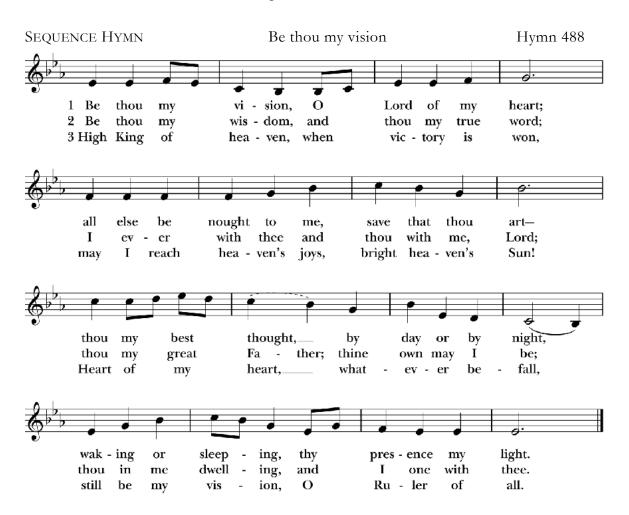
# PSALM 43 (chanted by all)

- Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly **people**; from those who are deceitful and unjust, deliver me!
- For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
   why have you cast me off?
   Why must I walk about mournfully
   because of the oppression of the enemy?
- O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

- 4 Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.
- Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.** 



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

# THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

JOHN 6:35-38

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away, for I have come down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Christie Hord

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE EXAMINATION

The people are seated. The Ordinand remains standing.

Bishop My sister, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world. Now you are called to work as a pastor, priest, and teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

My sister, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

Answer I believe I am so called.

Bishop Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Answer I do.

Bishop Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you do your best to pattern your life and that of your family in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

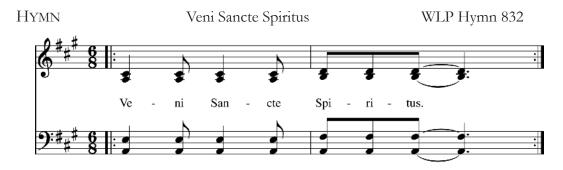
Answer I will.

Bishop May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

Answer Amen.

#### THE CONSECRATION OF THE PRIEST

All now stand except the Ordinand who kneels facing the Bishop and the presbyters who stand to the right and left of the Bishop.



#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Bishop God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS

Bishop Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to Amanda, fill her with grace and power, and make her a priest in your Church.

#### The Bishop then continues

May she exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant. Make her a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise councilor. Grant that in all things she may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

The People in a loud voice respond: Amen.

#### VESTING AND PRESENTATION OF A BIBLE

The new Priest is now vested according to the order of priests. The Bishop then gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying,

Bishop Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a priest of the Church of God.

The Bishop greets the newly ordained.

THE PEACE The people stand. The new priest says to the congregation:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick

Offertory Anthem

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

St. James Choir

arr. Paul Manz

Choir:

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

#### Choir:

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Both Choir and Congregation:

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

THE DOXOLOGY (sung by all)

Hymn 390 v. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

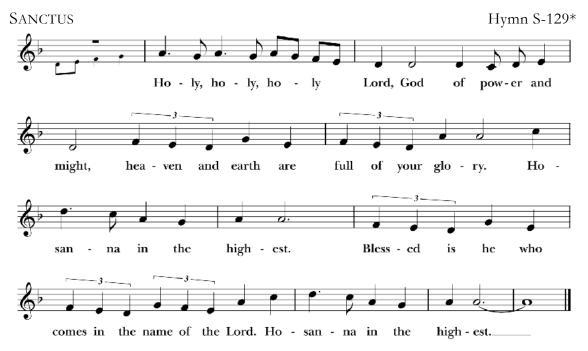
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The people kneel or stand as they are able. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM (sung by all)

Hymn S-163

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

#### THE INVITATION AND MINISTRATION

All are welcome and encouraged to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. Please come forward and an usher will guide you to the altar rail. Those unable to kneel may stand. To receive the host (bread), place your hands together. You may immediately eat the host, or wait to dip it into the wine (intinction). To receive from the chalice, help the minister guide the chalice to your lips. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your arms over your chest, after you receive the host. Receiving the host or wine alone is considered full communion. It is appropriate to remain at the rail until the next person has received and then return to your seat. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.

#### COMMUNION HYMN

Here I am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.

> I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? (*Refrain*)

# Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone, I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (*Refrain*)

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (*Refrain*)

# COMMUNION HYMN

I am the bread of life

Hymn 335

- 1. I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hunger; they who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father draw them.
- Refrain: And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day.
- 2. The Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world, and they who eat of this bread, they shall live for ever. (*Refrain*)

- 3. Unless you eat
  of the Flesh of the Son of Man
  and drink of his Blood,
  you shall not have life within you.
  (Refrain)
- 4. I am the resurrection,I am the life.They who believe in me,even if they die,they shall live for ever. (*Refrain*)
- 5. Yes, Lord, we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who has come into the world. (*Refrain*)

#### THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Amanda may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with her, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE BLESSING

The new Priest blesses the people with an appropriate benediction.



# THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE Final from Organ Symphony Vierne (1870 - 1937)

All Music is streamed by permission under One License (license number 702219). Music is from The Hymnal 1982 copyright Church Publishing Inc. except as otherwise noted below:

Veni Sancte Spiritus © 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taize, F-71250 Taize Community, France. All rights reserved.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ©2000 MorningStar Music Publishers/Birnamwood Publications.

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty, public domain

Here I Am, Lord - ©1981, OCP. All rights reserved.

I am the Bread of Life – Tune: © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

Text: based on John 6 and 11; ©1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the Ordination of Amanda Harbert Dosher by the St. James Episcopal Church staff.

Please Join us for a celebratory reception in Green Hall immediately following the service.

# St. James Episcopal Church

The Reverend De Freeman, Rector
The Reverend Forbes Sirmon, Associate Priest
The Reverend Amanda Dosher, Deacon

# MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

#### Celebrant

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick Bishop, Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

# Preacher

The Reverend Christie Hord Rector, St. John's Episcopal Church, Pensacola, Florida

#### Master of Ceremonies

The Reverend Forbes Sirmon
Associate, St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### **Presenters**

The Reverend Denson Freeman Rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

The Reverend Dr. Michael Hoffman Rector, Christ Church, Pensacola, Florida

The Reverend Annie Jung
Associate, Trinity Episcopal Church, New Orleans, Louisiana

The Reverend Joanna Unangst Curate, Trinity Episcopal Church, The Woodlands, Texas

Mrs. Lyn Smith

Commission on Ministry, Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

Mr. Joseph Taylor Commission on Ministry, Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

#### Deacon

The Reverend Rachel Iverson

Deacon, St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Pensacola, Florida

#### Lectors

Mrs. Elaine Estefan
St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

Mrs. Cathy Ambersley Kamm Friend of the Ordinand

#### Litanist/Cantor

Mrs. Mary Katherine Kilgore
Director of Music, St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### Music:

St. James Episcopal Church Choir Mrs. Mary Katherine Kilgore, *Director of Music* Mrs. Helen Rodgers, *Organist* 

# **Stole/Vestment Presenters**

Miss Anabelle Dosher Miss Scarlett Dosher Daughters of Ordinand

# Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Mrs. Andy Burton, Mrs. Elaine Estefan Mr. Jake Lambert, Mr. Bruce Stone St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### **Oblationers**

Mr. Keith David Hensel Mrs. Joy Lewis-Mendez Friends of the Ordinand

#### Acolytes

Ella Catherine Bradley, Dylan Freeman Charlotte Guilian, Virginia Guilian Elizabeth McEniry, Trey McKean Jaden Williams, Makayla Williams Youth, St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### Ushers

Mr. Jeb Arington, Mr. Ben Codding Mr. John Glover, Mr. George Huckabay St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### Welcome Ministry

Mrs. Nancy Dennis
St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

#### **Reception Committee**

Mrs. Bebe Goetter, Mrs. Jeanie Smith, Mrs. Alice Webb St. James Episcopal Church, Fairhope, Alabama

# PREFACE TO THE ORDINATION RITES

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles' time, there have been different ministries within the Church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy catholic Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering his holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and priests in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ's name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of episcopal hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these services of ordination and consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or deacon in this Church unless they are so ordained, or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's catholic Church, but is a gift from God for the nurture of his people and the proclamation of his Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for the conferring of the sacred orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

- BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER